Even though there is a fixed time schedule for clearance of the Projects, actual clearance depends upon how soon the State Government complies with the observations of the Central Appraising Agencies and obtain environmental/Forest/rehabilitation and re-settlement clearances from the Ministry of Environment and Forests and the Ministry of Welfare.

Visit of Foreign Diplomats

4706. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of foreign diplomats and journalists who visited Jammu and Kashmir during 1995 and this year till date;

(b) whether many of these diplomats had meetings with the secessionist and terrorist leaders;

(c) whether some of foreign elements including some diplomats have been encouraging secessionist and anti-India elements;

(d) if so, the reasons for permitting such elements including foreign diplomats known for anti-India activities; and

(e) the reasons for allowing the foreign diplomats to have meetings with the State officers connected with the security matters?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) and (b) Government of India place no restriction on travel of foreign diplomats and journalists to any part of India including Jammu & Kashmir and persons they meet. Therefore, the names of diplomats and journalists who visited Jammu & Kashmir during 1995 and 1996 till date, as enclosed in the Statement are by no means a comprehensive list of such visitors to Jammu & Kashmir but lists only those persons who has sought specific assistance from this Ministry for visiting Jammu & Kashmir.

(c) Yes Sir. This August House is fully informed of activities of agencies from across the border who have been encouraging secessionist and anti-India elements in Kashmir.

(d) This is not correct. In fact, Government have taken every possible measure to check such activities.

(e) As part of the policy of transparency, no restrictions have been placed on foreign diplomats meeting State officers and the common people as part of their normal diplomatic activity. Such meetings have helped to a significant extent in allaying unfounded misconceptions and misinformation being spread by India's adversaries.

STATEMENT

S. No.	Names of Diplomats	Dates of Visit
1	2	3
1.	Mr. Kinefuchi, Dy. Dir., South West Asia Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan.	13.3.95
2.	Mr. Okinobu Hirai, First Secretary, Japanese Embassy, New Delhi.	13.3.95
3.	Mr. Otto Pfister, Attache (Dev.), Embassy of Switzerland.	11—30.6.95
4.	PAP to H.E. Uldaricio Figulroa, Ambassador of Chile to India.	6—11.7.95
5.	PAP to Mr. Kaj Ostergoard, Counsellor, Royal Danish Embassy.	7—18.8.95
6.	Mr. Bjarre jonsen Counsellor (Dev.), Royal Danish Embassy along with his wife.	7—18.8.95
7.	PAP to Mr. Marteh Sommer, First Secretary (Dev.), Swiss Embassy.	14—18.8.95

1	2	3
8.	PAP to Mr. Richard John Moberly, First Secretary, British High Commission.	1.9.95—1.10.95
9.	Mr. M.H. Khooshamdi, Third Counsellor, Iranian Embassy.	2—4-6.95
10.	Mr. Hamid Reza Sayyed Nasseri, First Secretary, Iranian Embassy.	2—4.6.95
11.	Mr. Abol Fazal Zareei, Second Secretary Iranian Embassy.	2—4.6.95
12.	H.E.Mr. Ali Reza Sheikh Attar, Ambassador, Iranian Embassay.	16—20-10.95
13.	Mr. M.H. Khooshamdi, Third Counsellor, Iranian Embassy.	16—20.10.95
14.	Mr. Hamid Reza Sayyed Nasseri, First Secretary, Iranian Embassy.	16–20.10.95
15.	Mr. Abol Fazal Zareei, Second Secretary, Iranian Embassy.	16–20.10.95
16.	Mr. Hassan Shaeri, Second Secretary, Iranian Embassy.	16–20.10.95
17.	Mr. Okinobu Hirai, First Secretary, Japanese Embassy.	12–18.11.95
18.	Anatoli M. Drukov, Ambasador, Russian Embassy, accompanied by his wife.	6—9.11.95
19.	Mr. M. Mgeladze, Counsellor, Russian Embassy.	6—9.11.95
20.	Mr. Yoshifumi O[redacted]a, Counsellor, Japanese Embassy.	24—31.5.96
21.	Mr. Okinobu Hirai, First Secretary, Japanese Embassy.	21—24.5.96
22.	H.E. Mr Drago Stambuk, Ambassador of Croatia.	June '96
23.	Mr. Mohammad Hossein Khosh Amadi, Counsellor, Iranian Embassy.	9—12.6.96
24.	Mr. Abol Fazal Zareei, Second Secretary, Iranian Embassy.	9—12.6.96

1	2	3
25.	H.E. Mr. Frank Wisner, US Ambassador.	29.7.96–3.8.96
26.	Mr. Pfister Otto, Attache (Dev.), Embassy of Switzerland.	1—30.6.96
27.	Mr. Guy Ducrey, Ambassador, Embassy of Switzerland.	8—21.6.96

[Translation]

Non-Resident Indians

4707. SHRI DATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians, who have become. N.R. Is during the last two years;

(b) the criteria laid down for becoming an N.R.I.;

(c) whether NRIs are given any special concession/ facilities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) & (b) NRIs are Indian citizens who stay abroad for employment or for carrying on business or vocation or any other purpose in circumstances indicating an indefinite period of stay outside India. As such an indeterminate number of Indians would have become NRIs during the last 2 years.

(c) & (d) A Commissioner for NRIs is functioning under the Ministry of Finance for facilitating and encouraging NRI investment/concessions in India. These special facilities include, inter-alia, right to inherit and acquire property in India, investment on non-repatriation and repatriation basis under various schemes, maintaining non-resident bank accounts in India, investment in NRI Bonds, tax incentives, special import facilities to returning Non Resident Indians and conclusion of Avoidance of Double Taxation Agreements with other countries for their benefit.

[English]

Denial of Visa by China to Indian Citizens

4708. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES:
SHRI RAJESH RANJAN *alias* PAPPU YADAV:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian citizens from Sikkim and Arunachal Pradesh are denied visa to visit China;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have made any protest to China on the matter; and

(d) if so, the response of China thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in U.P.

4709. SHRI KISHAN LAL DILER : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the construction work of the 300 beds Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital was started in Aligarh district of U.P.;

(b) the funds sanctioned and released to the State Government by the Union Government for the construction work and the amount yet to be released;

(c) the extent of construction work, which has been completed by using the sanctioned amount and the reasons for delay for the remaining work; and

(d) the time by which the construction work is likely to be completed and the hospital will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) The Government of Uttar Pradesh has informed that the construction work of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital was started in February, 1992.

(b) No amount has been sanctioned by the Union Government for the construction of the hospital.

(c) and (d) The Government of U.P. has informed that only 10% of the construction work could be completed due to constraint of funds. On availability of funds in the next three years the construction work is expected to be completed by March, 1999.